648, 665, 642, 433

Albania EGl

[For the economic and political position of Albania under Soviet control since the death of Stalin, see 85: Zinner, Rl Soviet Union, Category 116, Pp. 157B-163B.]

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

Industry

HAVING immense natural wealth and possessing an abundance of raw materials and considerable reserves of power, Albania is well placed for the development of industry and may therefore be considered a country of the future. Already one can observe great progress made since the world war.

Albania being essentially an agricultural [241] country, it is logical that agriculture and the food industries are so far most developed. The possibilities of future development are also great, there also being large surplus stocks of agricultural products not required for home consumption.

Another industry yet to be developed on a [313] larger scale is timber. Albania is exceptionally rich in forests. Many of the forests are still untouched as domestic needs are filled easily from so dense a growth. Taking into consideration the large number of fully grown forests suitable for felling, and the excellent [433] quality of the wood, the timber industry could be developed very profitably.

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

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There are in Albania oak forests, coniferous trees, chestnut trees, beech trees, the latter being mingled with pine and firs. Juniper, maple and box grow on the higher slopes of the mountains. The elm, chestnut, walnut and plane trees are more prevalent on the plains.

There are steam sawmills near Valona and elsewhere which work continually.

Albania being so centrally located for the Balkan States and with one of their main outlets to the Adriatic Sea, is an ideal place for the establishment of factories, branch-factories and wholesale supply houses covering all trades, from canneries to automobile manufactures to supply the needs for the Balkan States and other nearby countries, this being especially desirable and ideal when we consider that there is ample labor to be had and the wages are the lowest in Europe.

Land and building materials are extremely low in price, making it possible for the men of moderate means to live luxuriously.

Taxation on new properties does not exist,

MINERALS AND MINING

433 The Kingdom of Albania is a modern well-
316 developed European State. It is already possessed of such social amenities as schools, hospitals, churches, aeroplanes, telegraphs, telephones, wireless, automobile roads, etc., consequently capital outlay and overhead charges are not, as in most mining countries, burdened with the provision of these services.

[464] Albania has at hand an adequate supply of qualified and skilled workers, from university graduates downwards. Apart, therefore, from foreign managers and technical specialists, there is no need for the otherwise usual expense and difficulty of staffing.

433 Albania is possessed of coalfields and is well wooded and exceptionally well watered. There is always available unlimited timber for mining and building, coal for power and water for general purposes.

Tirana, the capital of Albania, is within one day's air journey from London, a few hours' air journey from Paris and only about three hours' air trip from Rome.

[464] Albania is possessed of an abundant supply of willing unskilled and peasant labor. There is in the world to-day probably nowhere available such cheap, eager and efficient labor as is everywhere at hand in Albania.